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Your letter of November 8, 1953, concerning a near accident with a Government car has been referred to me for investigation and reply.

As you were able to note the license number, we have been able to locate the driver and get a complete report. The Government car was engaged on official Government business, transporting employees between two Government installations under official instructions. The employee driving had been specifically authorized to take the car in the absence of the regularly assigned driver. It has been established, therefore, that the vehicle was being used for strictly Government business.

However, in regard to the incident you reported, the driver and the other occupants of the car remember it clearly. The driver saw what she deemed to be an adequate opening to get into the right-hand lane. It was only on making the move that she noticed the proximity of your car. One of the passengers in the rear of the Government vehicle commented on the closeness at the time. However,

neither the Government driver nor any of the occupants saw your car leaving the road onto the shoulder even though they looked back at the time. They, therefore, considered it a close call without danger, such as happens from time to time in heavy traffic, and saw no reason to come to a stop.

In view of the circumstances the driver has been admonished about exercising greater care, and all the occupants of the car have been informed of the Government regulations concerning occupancy of the driver seat.

Your effort in bringing this matter to our attention is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,